Scheme to encourage textile exports

†3710. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to formulate a scheme to encourage textile exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the position of textile exports during the last three years; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned by India through textile export during this period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) Government has been operating various schemes and taking a number of steps from time to time to encourage textile exports. Some of the important initiatives taken are:

(i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.

(ii) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched Technology Mission on cotton (TMC). The mission comprises four minimissions, which are being jointly implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Textiles. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to improve cotton processing facilities by upgrading/modernizing the existing ginning and pressing facilities and setting up of new market yards/improvement of existing market yards.

(iii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres to give fillip to exports.

(iv) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme titled "Textile Centre infrastructure Development Scheme" (TCIDS) has been launched.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(v) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textile sector under the automatic route

(vi) The Government has de-reserve the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector

(vii) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given excise exemption option.

(viii) The imports of specified textiles and garment machinery items has been allowed at concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investments and to make our textile products competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.

(ix) Duty-free imports of 21 items of trimmings and embellishment items are allowed to the garment exporters, upto 3% of their actual export performance during the previous year.

(x) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its seven branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

(xi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textiles pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.

(c) and (d) As per available Directorate General of Commerce Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S) data, the textile exports during the last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 has been as given below:-

(value in US$ Million)

Year	Textile Exports
April 2001-March 2002	10764.7
April 2002-March 2003	12412.7
April 2003-March 2004	13159.5